

TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1017
Minutes
Planning Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall
Thursday, May 12, 2016

Call to Order. Called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

Traffic Board Members Present: Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; William Yeager, Assistant Chief – BPD; Giovanni Scaringi, Councilman; Terry Kellogg, DPW Commissioner; Ray Standish, Engineering

Traffic Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Dan Correll, Retired BPD; Dave Petryszyn, BPD Traffic; Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS

Approval of Minutes. Request to approve the minutes **Traffic Board Meeting 1016, held on Thursday, April 14, 2016.**

Moved by: G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Items Considered

Oak Street - Alternate Parking Exception. A resident submitted a request to Councilman Motsavage to have the section of Oak Street from Spring Forest to Cypress Street exempt from Alternate side of the street parking in winter months. The resident states it is difficult to get out in snow and ice when cars are parked on Oak Street are facing uphill. Traffic recommends that it does make sense but everyone agrees that the change shouldn't be made until this season of alternate side parking is finished so that residents who may have gotten tickets don't get upset and complain to the city. Councilman Scaringi will contact the resident and request a petition from other neighbors indicating that everyone would like this change, not just one person requesting it. Councilman Scaringi requested to hold this until May meeting. Councilman Scaringi knocked on the doors on Oak Street and found that only one home, 246 Oak Street wasn't fond of the idea. Otherwise everyone else was supportive of the idea and most signed a petition.

Motion to exempt Oak Street-from Gaines Street to Prospect Street, from alternate side parking.

Moved by: Scaringi, Kellogg

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Jarvis Street-Alternate Street Parking. Clinton Street until Grace for parking for seniors. Mr. Scaringi reported that people from the Senior Center are looking for more parking because due to Garo's Garage using a lot of street parking, there are rarely vacant parking spaces on the street. Traffic will look into this further. Traffic reported that there is already a large parking lot available for the Senior Center. Councilman Scaringi reported that he spoke with several residents. They said that the parking lot fills up very quickly during lunch events and parking is scarce. Many seniors are having a hard time finding parking on the street and are having to park far away and then walk to the senior center. He is concerned that if this passes, it would then allow Garo and others to park there even more. He does believe that the net gain is better than the net loss. Traffic will find out how many parking spaces will be gained by passing this request and report back. Councilman Scaringi reported that there are two No Parking signs in this area. He submitted several pictures to show how crowded this street can be during an event. The Senior Center is requesting is to have the two No Parking signs removed from the west side of the street. Mr. Kraham said that this may not be possible because there is a handicapped ramp at one of the locations. Traffic will meet with Pat McGinnis from the Senior Center and report back. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

53 Emma Street. Mr. Scaringi reported that a resident is requesting a handicapped parking space. Mr. Scaringi reported that the resident actually lives on Downs and has recently had back surgery and has difficulty walking to car. She does not have off street parking and would like a new handicapped parking space. Traffic will look into this further and report back in May. Traffic met with the resident and found that a handicapped space is warranted. She indicated that she would also like a concrete slab placed from the sidewalk to the curb but the city is not responsible for this installation. The resident needs to get a permit and have it installed. Mr. Correll will inform her of this information. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

Chenango Street. Truesdell Street to Bevier Street, no parking either side. Traffic reported that they investigated this request. They stopped and spoke to a business owner who is concerned that the bike lane will take away parking from his business. Especially in the winter months when there are very few bicyclists anyway. Mr. Kraham reported that the NY DOT said that if there is an issue with the business and installing No Parking on this street. They are concerned about how it will affect their businesses. Mr. Kraham is concerned that if the parking is removed for a bike lane, part of the year, the bike lane won't even be used due to weather. Mr. Standish will meet with the DOT regarding this matter and report back. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

Beethoven Street and Leroy Street. Councilman Joseph Mihalko would like this light removed and have a four-way stop put in. There have been several accidents over the past couple of years at this intersection. Mr. Kraham indicated that BMTS has done a previous study on several lights along Leroy Street. Mr. Kellogg proposed that before making the change, perhaps Traffic Board should post the potential change on the city's website for a certain amount of time to see what people's reactions and comments are. Mr. Kellogg will confirm that the light controller can be changed to blinking red. Mr. Standish will look into the transition procedure of changing a traffic light to blinking light. Kraham will speak with City Council regarding the issue. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School and Minerva Avenue. Councilman Mihalko received several phone calls that when school is starting and ending there are some traffic issues on Minerva Avenue. Traffic gets backed up on this street. Hold until the Mayor's Office or the Traffic Division hears more from the local residents and/or parents. **Item complete.**

Review of Crossing Guard locations. Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.

24 Cypress Street. The family of Ms. Theresa P. Yevchak is requesting the removal of the Handicapped Parking Zone at 24 Cypress Street since Ms. Yevchak has passed and the zone is no longer necessary. Traffic reported the following:

The Traffic Division received a phone message for the removal of a handicapped parking zone from the family of Theresa P. Yevchak, 24 Cypress Street, who passed away April 26, 2016. The zone was passed by the Traffic Board and inserted in front of that location residence at in March of 2011. The Traffic Division responded to that location to confirm that the request to remove that zone was legitimate. A neighbor at 26 Cypress Street stated that the residence was vacant and with the recent passing of Ms. Yevchak he was not aware of any further need. An obituary notice confirmed her passing.

The Traffic Division therefore request that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

DELETE: Section 22.3 (A) Handicapped Parking Zone

Cypress Street

North

From 34 feet west of the extended curb line
of Brownell Avenue to 56 feet west.

Motion to remove handicapped parking space in front of 24 Cypress Street.

Moved by: Kellogg, Scaringi,

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

31 Robinson Street. Mr. Gary McLaughlin of 31 Robinson Street requested the removal of a handicapped parking zone in front of his residence. He stated that two elderly women who lived there previously have passed away and the zone is no longer necessary. Traffic reported the following:

The Traffic Division received an IDC from Gary McLaughlin, 31 Robinson Street, requesting the removal of a handicapped parking zone on front of his residence. Mr. McLaughlin stated the two elderly woman who lived there previously who were handicapped and have died and there is no longer a need for that zone. He further states that no other neighbors use that zone and it prohibits him from parking in front of his home. The Traffic Division responded to that location to confirm that request to remove that zone was legitimate and that the request came from the occupant, Mr. McLaughlin, of that address. He confirmed was the present occupant and that he was made the request.

The Traffic Division therefore request that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

DELETE: Section 22.3 (A) Handicapped Parking Zone

Robinson Street – North Side- From 417 feet west of Liberty Street to 439 feet west.

Motion to remove handicapped parking space in front of 31 Robinson Street.

Moved by: Kellogg, Scaringi,

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Evans Street. Councilman Matzo is requesting that a No Parking sign be added to the end of Evans Street. Traffic reported the following:

The Traffic Division received a verbal request from Sixth District Councilman John Matzo to have the east most end of Evans Street, from the dead end west, both on the north and south side of the street as a No Parking zone. Mr. Matzo stated his constituents there are reporting that parents bringing their children to Benjamin Franklin School at the end of that street are leaving their vehicles unattended while they escort them to that facility. In doing so they are blocking access and egress to residences driveways and double parking to prohibit safe and open passage through the street. The Traffic Division responded to this area to review the complaint. It observed that Evans Street is a narrow residential two way dead end city street from Tompkins Street west. It abuts the school property at its east most end. All those homes in that area have driveways. In conferring with the neighbors about the complaint they, confirmed what the councilman reported and request that the parking be prohibited in front of their homes.

The Traffic Division therefore request that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

INSERT: Section 23 – No Parking Anytime

Evans Street – Dead End – beginning on the south side of the street at a point 60' west

*of the dead end and continuing east to and including the east end of the street
around to the north side of the street and ending at a point 63' west of the dead end.*

Motion to install No Parking Anytime on Evans Street

Moved by: Scaringi, Kellogg

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Woodrow Wilson Elementary School 15 MPH Speed Sign. Councilman Scaringi reported that he has had several phone calls reporting that cars are not slowing down in this area, during school hours. He is requesting that something be done to enforce speeding in this area. Assistant Chief Yeager will speak with Traffic regarding sending some officers over to enforce the speed zone. Also, Traffic will install a speed flash trailer for several weeks. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

Basketball Hoops in street. Mr. Correll is concerned about the safety of these being placed in the street. Mr. Kraham will speak to City Council regarding his concern so that they will be on the alert in their districts. **Hold until Thursday, June 9, 2016 Traffic Board Meeting.**

Adjournment 9:34 a.m.

Moved by: G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, W. Yeager, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None